

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for changing the service level for a subscriber in an electronic communication network, comprising the steps of:

creating a flexible voucher list (FVL) associated with the subscriber the FVL comprising a sequence of voucher records for one or more services, each voucher record in the FVL utilizing a nonspecific identifier adaptable for identifying any service and each record in the FVL comprising a quantity of vouchers related to the identified service, and

associating said sequence of voucher records with a subscriber for usage by said subscriber when utilizing said one or more services. services, wherein a value of the sequence of voucher records is determined for the sequence of voucher records and converted from a non-monetary value into a specific rate or interval associated with the identified services.

2. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, further comprising the steps of:

creating one or more rating records in a rating structure for storage of a fee measured in units to be charged for service usage, further comprising a voucher type identification, corresponding to the nonspecific identifier, and a voucher quantity, specifying the type and the quantity of vouchers corresponding to said fee for a particular service.

3. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, further comprising the steps of:

creating one or more rating records in a rating structure for storage of an amount or rate of units to be deducted in order to rate an interval and a charging interval to be rated, a voucher type identification, corresponding to the nonspecific identifier, and a voucher quantity, specifying the type and the quantity of vouchers corresponding to the rate for said interval.

4. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 2, further comprising the steps of:

receiving an incoming charging request from a service element for service usage,
analysing said rating structure for said charging request,

if there is a condition in said rating structure for said request, finding a resulting rating record for return to said request,

if said rating record comprises the voucher type identification and

if a record, having an identification corresponding to said voucher type identification of said rating record, is available for said user,

decreasing the voucher quantity of said voucher record with a value corresponding to the consumed service.

5. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 3 wherein said rating records have a discount percentage value that fixes the maximum percentage of the service usage that is payable using the vouchers for a particular service that can be paid using the vouchers.

6. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein said voucher records are arranged in a list associated with said subscriber.

7. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein said voucher records have an expiry date.

8. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 5, wherein, if a priority order for the usage of said voucher record, having a voucher type identification corresponding to said voucher type identification of said rating record, or another unit of payment associated with said subscriber is available, the voucher record or unit of payment is selected for decrease according to said priority order.

9. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 8, wherein said priority order is modified by the subscriber.

10. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 2, wherein said quantity of units is specified as one of SMS, EMS, MMS, volume of data, and time of service usage.

11-12. (Canceled)

13. (Currently Amended) A system for changing the service level for a subscriber in an electronic communication network, said system comprising:

means for creating a flexible voucher list (FVL) associated with the subscriber, the FVL comprising a sequence of voucher records for one or more services, each voucher record in the FVL utilizing a nonspecific identifier adaptable for identifying any service and each record in the FVL comprising a quantity of vouchers related to the identified service, and

means for associating said sequence of voucher records with a subscriber for usage by said subscriber when utilizing said one or more services. services, wherein a value of the sequence of voucher records is determined for the sequence of voucher records and converted from a non-monetary value into a specific rate or interval associated with the identified services.

14. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 13, further comprising:

means for creating one or more rating records in a rating structure for storage of a fee measured in units to be charged for service usage, and

a voucher type identification, corresponding to the nonspecific identifier, and a voucher quantity, specifying the type and the quantity of vouchers corresponding to said fee for a particular service.

15. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 13, further comprising:

Means for creating one or more rating records in a rating structure for storage of an amount or rate of units to be deducted in order to rate an interval and a charging interval to be rated, a voucher type identification, corresponding to the nonspecific identifier, and a voucher quantity, specifying the type and the quantity of vouchers corresponding to the rate for said interval.

16. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 14, further comprising:

means for receiving an incoming charging request from a service element for service usage,

means for analyzing said rating structure for said charging request,

if there is a condition in said rating structure for said request, finding a resulting rating record for return to said request, or

if said rating record comprises the voucher type identification and if a record, having an identification corresponding to said voucher type identification of said rating record, is available for said user, and

means for decreasing the voucher quantity of said voucher record with a value corresponding to the consumed service.

17. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 15, wherein said rating records have a discount percentage value that fixes the maximum percentage of the service usage that is payable using the vouchers for a particular service that can be paid using the vouchers.

18. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 13, wherein said voucher records are arranged in a list associated with said subscriber.

19. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 13, wherein said voucher records have an expiry date.

20. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 17, wherein, if a priority order for the usage of said voucher record, having a voucher type identification corresponding to said voucher type identification of said rating record, or another unit of payment associated with said subscriber is available, the voucher record or unit of payment is selected for decrease according to said priority order.

21. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 19, wherein said priority order is modified by the subscriber.

22. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 14, wherein said quantity of units to be charged is specified as one of SMS, EMS, MMS, volume of data, and time of service usage.